In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (cancel).

Claim 2 (cancel).

Claim 3 (amended). The compound according to Claim ~~2~~ 17 wherein the optional substituent on the R_1 or R_2 pyrimidin-4-yl ring is C_{1-4} alkyl or $NR_{10}R_{20}$.

Claim 4 (amended). The compound according to ~~any of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 17 wherein R_1 or R_2 is an optionally substituted phenyl.

Claim 5 (amended). The compound according to Claim 4 wherein the ~~one or more~~ optional substituents are independently selected from halogen or methoxy.

Claim 6 (cancel).

Claim 7 (amended). The compound according to Claim ~~1~~ 17 wherein R_3 is hydrogen, $-(CR_{10}R_{20})_n(Y_2)_p$, or $-(CR_{10}R_{20})_n CH_3$; and Y_2 is $-NR_8R_9$ or $-NR_{10}C(Z)R_8$ ~~; and R_4 is an optionally substituted phenyl~~.

Claim 8 (cancel).

Claim 9 (cancel).

Claim 10 (amended). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and a compound according to Claim 17 ~~any of Claims 1 to 9~~.

Claim 11 (amended). A method of treating a cytokine mediated disease in an animal in need thereof which method comprises administering to said animal an effective cytokine mediating amount of a compound according to Claim 17 ~~any of Claims 1 to 9~~.

Claim 12 (original). The method according to Claim 11 wherein the cytokine mediated disease is asthma, adult respiratory distress syndrome, stroke, bone reasorption diseases, arthritic joint conditions, and other inflammatory diseases.

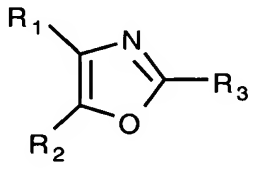
Claim 13 (cancel).

Claim 14 (amended). The method according to ~~any of Claims 11 to 13~~ Claim 11 wherein the mediation of the disease state is by Interleukin-1 (IL-1).

Claim 15 (amended). The method according to ~~any of Claims 11 to 13~~ Claim 11 wherein the mediation of the disease state is by Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF).

Claim 16 (amended). A method of treating inflammation in a mammal in need thereof which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 17 ~~any of Claims 1 to 9~~.

17 (new). A compound of the formula:



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wherein:

one of R_1 or R_2 is an optionally substituted aryl ring and the other of R_1 or R_2 is an optionally substituted 4-pyrimidinyl;

wherein when one of R_1 and R_2 is an optionally substituted aryl ring, the ring is substituted by one or two substituents, each of which is independently selected, and which, for a 4-phenyl, 4-naphth-1-yl or 5-naphth-2-yl substituent, is halo, cyano, $C(Z)NR_7R_{17}$, $C(Z)OR_{23}$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m COR_{36}$, SR_5, SOR_5, OR_{36}, halo-substituted-C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, $ZC(Z)R_{36}$, $NR_{10}C(Z)R_{23}$, or $(CR_{10}R_{20})_mNR_{10}R_{20}$;

and which, for other positions of substitution, is halo, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"-cyano, $C(Z)NR_{16}R_{26}$, $C(Z)OR_8$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$" COR_8, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"$S(O)_mR_8$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"OR_8, halo-substituted-C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"$NR_{10}C(Z)R_8$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"$NR_{10}S(O)_m$' R_{11}, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"$NR_{10}S(O)_m$'-NR_7R_{17}, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"$ZC(Z)R_8$ or $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"$NR_{16}R_{26}$;

and when one of R_1 and R_2 is an optionally substituted 4-pyrimidinyl ring, the ring is substituted by one or two substituents each of which is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, halo, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, $NR_{10}R_{20}$, or an N-heterocyclyl ring which ring has from 5 to 7 members and optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR_{22};

R_3 is X_c ;

X_c is hydrogen, $-(CR_{10}R_{20})_n (Y_2)_p$, $-(CR_{10}R_{20})_n -C{=}C- (CR_{10}R_{20})_n(Y_2)_p$, $(CR10R20)_n- C \equiv C(R10R20)_{n'}-(Y2)_p$, or halosubstituted C_{1-10}alkyl;

p is 0 or an integer having a value of 1;

Z is oxygen or sulfur;

n is 0 or an integer having a value of 1 to 10;

n' is an integer having a value of 1 to 10;

m is 0, or the integer 1 or 2;

m' is 1 or 2;

m'' is 0 or an integer having a value of 1 to 5;

Y_1 is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-5} alkyl, halo-substituted C_{1-5} alkyl, halogen, or $-(CR_{10}R_{20})_nY_2$;

Y_2 is halogen, OR_8, NO_2, $S(O)_{m'}R_{11}$, SR_8, $S(O)_{m'}NR_8R_9$, $-NR_8R_9$, $O(CR_{10}R_{20})_{n'}NR_8R_9$, $C(O)R_8$, CO_2R_8, $CO_2(CR_{10}R_{20})_{n'}$ $CONR_8R_9$, $ZC(O)R_8$, CN, $C(Z)NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}C(Z)R_8$, $C(Z)NR_8OR_9$, $NR_{10}C(Z)NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}S(O)_{m'}R_{11}$, $N(OR_{21})C(Z)NR_8R_9$, $N(OR_{21})C(Z)R_8$, $C(=NOR_{21})R_8$, $NR_{10}C(=NR_{15})SR_{11}$, $NR_{10}C(=NR_{15})NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}C(=CR_{14}R_{24})SR_{11}$, $NR_{10}C(=CR_{14}R_{24})NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}C(O)C(O)NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}C(O)C(O)OR_{10}$, $C(=NR_{13})NR_8R_9$, $C(=NOR_{13})NR_8R_9$, $C(=NR_{13})ZR_{11}$, $OC(Z)NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}S(O)_2CF_3$, $NR_{10}C(Z)OR_{10}$, 5-(R_{18})-1,2,4-oxadizaol-3-yl or 4-(R_{12})-5-($R_{18}R_{19}$)-4,5-dihydro-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl;

R_5 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl or NR_7R_{17}, excluding the moieties SR_5 being SNR_7R_{17} and SOR_5 being -SOH;

R_6 is C_{1-4} alkyl, halo-substituted-C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl or C_{3-5} cycloalkyl;

R_7 and R_{17} is each independently selected from hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl or R_7 and R_{17} together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 5 to 7 members which ring optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR_{22};

R_8 is hydrogen, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl or R_{11};

R_9 is hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{5-7} cycloalkenyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl or R_8 and R_9 may together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 5 to 7 members which ring optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR_{12};

R_{10} and R_{20} is each independently selected from hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_{11} is C_{1-10} alkyl, halo-substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{5-7} cycloalkenyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl;

R_{12} is hydrogen, $-C(Z)R_{13}$ or optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted aryl-C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_{13} is hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl;

R_{14} and R_{24} is each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, nitro or cyano;

R_{15} is hydrogen, cyano, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or aryl;

R_{16} and R_{26} is each independently selected from hydrogen or optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted aryl-C_{1-4} alkyl, or together with the nitrogen which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 5 to 7 members which ring optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR_{12} ;

R_{18} and R_{19} is each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted arylalkyl or together R_{18} and R_{19} denote a oxygen or sulfur;

R_{21} is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable cation, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, aryl C_{1-4} alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heterocyclyl, aroyl, or C_{1-10} alkanoyl;

R_{22} is R_{10} or C(Z)-C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_{23} is C_{1-4} alkyl, halo-substituted-C_{1-4} alkyl, or C_{3-5} cycloalkyl;

R_{36} is hydrogen or R_{23};

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

18 (new). The compound according to Claim 1 wherein X_c is hydrogen.

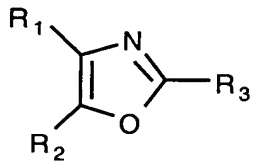
19 (new). The compound according to Claim 7 wherein R_3 is hydrogen, methyl, amino, or -$NR_{10}C(O)R_8$.

20 (new). The method according to Claim 11 wherein the cytokine mediated disease is arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatoid spondylitis, osteoarthritis, traumatic arthritis, rubella arthritis, acute synovitis, gouty arthritis and other arthritic conditions, gout, sepsis, septic shock, endotoxic shock, gram negative sepsis, toxic shock syndrome, diabetes, atherosclerosis, adult respiratory distress syndrome, cerebral malaria, chronic pulmonary inflammatory disease, silicosis, pulmonary sarcoisosis, bone resorption diseases, reperfusion injury, thrombosis, glomerulonepthritis, stroke, graft vs. host reaction, allograft rejections, fever and myalgias due to infection, cachexia secondary to infection or malignancy, cachexia secondary to acquired immune deficiency syndrome, keloid formation, scar tissue formation, eczema, psoriasis, Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, ulcerative colitis or pyresis.

21 (new). The compound according to Claim 17 which is 4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-(2-amino-pyrimidin-4-yl)oxazole; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

22 (new). The method acording to Claim 11 wherein the compound is 4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-(2-amino-pyrimidin-4-yl)oxazole; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23 (new). A compound of the formula:



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wherein:

one of R_1 or R_2 is an optionally substituted aryl ring and the other of R_1 or R_2 is an optionally substituted 4-pyrimidinyl;

wherein when one of R_1 and R_2 is an optionally substituted aryl ring, the ring is substituted by one or two substituents, each of which is independently selected, and which, for a 4-phenyl, 4-naphth-1-yl or 5-naphth-2-yl substituent, is halo, cyano, $C(Z)NR_7R_{17}$, $C(Z)OR_{23}$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$ COR_{36}, SR_5, SOR_5, OR_{36}, halo-substituted-C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, $ZC(Z)R_{36}$, $NR_{10}C(Z)R_{23}$, or $(CR_{10}R_{20})_mNR_{10}R_{20}$;

and which, for other positions of substitution, is halo, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$"-cyano, $C(Z)NR_{16}R_{26}$, $C(Z)OR_8$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m$" COR_8, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m"S(O)_mR_8$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m"OR_8$, halo-substituted-C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkyl, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m"NR_{10}C(Z)R_8$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m"NR_{10}S(O)_{m'}$ R_{11}, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m"NR_{10}S(O)_{m'}$-$NR_7R_{17}$, $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m"ZC(Z)R_8$ or $(CR_{10}R_{20})_m"NR_{16}R_{26}$;

and when one of R_1 and R_2 is an optionally substituted 4-pyrimidinyl ring, the ring is substituted by one or two substituents each of which is independently selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, halo, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkylthio, $NR_{10}R_{20}$, or an N-heterocyclyl ring which ring has from 5 to 7 members and optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR_{22};

R_3 is $-(CR_{10}R_{20})_n R_4$;

R_4 is $Q-(Y_1)_t$;

Q is an aryl or heteroaryl group;

t is an integer having a value of 1 to 3;

Z is oxygen or sulfur;

n is 0 or an integer having a value of 1 to 10;

n' is an integer having a value of 1 to 10;

m is 0, or the integer 1 or 2;

m' is 1 or 2;

m'' is 0 or an integer having a value of 1 to 5;

Y_1 is independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-5} alkyl, halo-substituted C_{1-5} alkyl, halogen, or $-(CR_{10}R_{20})_nY_2$;

Y_2 is halogen, OR_8, NO_2, $S(O)_{m'}R_{11}$, SR_8, $S(O)_{m'}NR_8R_9$, $-NR_8R_9$, $O(CR_{10}R_{20})_{n'}NR_8R_9$, $C(O)R_8$, CO_2R_8, $CO_2(CR_{10}R_{20})_{n'}$ $CONR_8R_9$, $ZC(O)R_8$, CN, $C(Z)NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}C(Z)R_8$, $C(Z)NR_8OR_9$, $NR_{10}C(Z)NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}S(O)_{m'}R_{11}$, $N(OR_{21})C(Z)NR_8R_9$, $N(OR_{21})C(Z)R_8$, $C(=NOR_{21})R_8$, $NR_{10}C(=NR_{15})SR_{11}$, $NR_{10}C(=NR_{15})NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}C(=CR_{14}R_{24})SR_{11}$, $NR_{10}C(=CR_{14}R_{24})NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}C(O)C(O)NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}C(O)C(O)OR_{10}$, $C(=NR_{13})NR_8R_9$, $C(=NOR_{13})NR_8R_9$, $C(=NR_{13})ZR_{11}$, $OC(Z)NR_8R_9$, $NR_{10}S(O)_2CF_3$, $NR_{10}C(Z)OR_{10}$, 5-(R_{18})-1,2,4-oxadizaol-3-yl or 4-(R_{12})-5-($R_{18}R_{19}$)-4,5-dihydro-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl;

R_5 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl or NR_7R_{17}, excluding the moieties SR_5 being SNR_7R_{17} and SOR_5 being -SOH;

R_6 is C_{1-4} alkyl, halo-substituted-C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{2-4} alkenyl, C_{2-4} alkynyl or C_{3-5} cycloalkyl;

R_7 and R_{17} is each independently selected from hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl or R_7 and R_{17} together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 5 to 7 members which ring optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR_{22};

R_8 is hydrogen, heterocyclyl, heterocyclylalkyl or R_{11};

R_9 is hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{5-7} cycloalkenyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl or R_8 and R_9 may together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 5 to 7 members which ring optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR_{12};

R_{10} and R_{20} is each independently selected from hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_{11} is C_{1-10} alkyl, halo-substituted C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{2-10} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{5-7} cycloalkenyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl;

R_{12} is hydrogen, $-C(Z)R_{13}$ or optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted aryl-C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_{13} is hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl;

R_{14} and R_{24} is each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, nitro or cyano;

R_{15} is hydrogen, cyano, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl or aryl;

R_{16} and R_{26} is each independently selected from hydrogen or optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted aryl-C_{1-4} alkyl, or together with the nitrogen which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 5 to 7 members

which ring optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur or NR_{12} ;

R_{18} and R_{19} is each independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted arylalkyl or together R_{18} and R_{19} denote a oxygen or sulfur;

R_{21} is hydrogen, a pharmaceutically acceptable cation, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, aryl, aryl C_{1-4} alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heterocyclyl, aroyl, or C_{1-10} alkanoyl;

R_{22} is R_{10} or C(Z)-C_{1-4} alkyl;

R_{23} is C_{1-4} alkyl, halo-substituted-C_{1-4} alkyl, or C_{3-5} cycloalkyl;

R_{36} is hydrogen or R_{23};

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24 (new). The compound according to Claim 23 wherein R_1 is a substituted 4-pyrimidinyl.

25 (new). The compound according to Claim 24 wherein the substituent is C_{1-4} alkyl or $NR_{10}R_{20}$.

26 (new). The compound according to Claim 23 wherein R_1 or R_2 is an optionally substituted phenyl.

27 (new). The compound according to Claim 26 wherein one or more of the optional substituents are independently selected from halogen or methoxy.

28 (new). The compound according to Claim 23 wherein Q is phenyl.

29 (new). The compound according to Claim 28 wherein the phenyl is substituted by $-SR_8$ or $-S(O)_{m'}R_{11}$.

30 (new). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and a compound according to Claim 23.

31 (new). A method of treating the inflammatory component of a cytokine mediated disease in an animal in need thereof which method comprises administering to said animal an effective cytokine mediating amount of a compound according to Claim 23.

32 (new). The method according to Claim 31 wherein the cytokine mediated disease is asthma, adult respiratory distress syndrome, stroke, bone reasorption diseases, arthritic joint conditions, and other inflammatory diseases.

33 (new). The method according to Claim 31 wherein mediation of the cytokine disease is by Interleukin-1 (IL-1).

34 (new). The method according to Claim 31 wherein mediation of the cytokine disease is by Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF).

35 (new). The method according to Claim 31 wherein the cytokine mediated disease is arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, rheumatoid spondylitis, osteoarthritis, traumatic arthritis, rubella arthritis, acute synovitis, gouty arthritis and other arthritic conditions, gout, sepsis, septic shock, endotoxic shock, gram negative sepsis, toxic shock syndrome, diabetes, atherosclerosis, adult respiratory distress syndrome, cerebral malaria, chronic pulmonary inflammatory disease, silicosis, pulmonary sarcoisosis, bone resorption diseases, reperfusion injury, thrombosis, glomerulonepthritis, stroke, graft vs. host reaction, allograft rejections, fever and myalgias due to infection, cachexia secondary to infection or malignancy, cachexia secondary to acquired immune deficiency syndrome, keloid formation, scar tissue formation, eczema, psoriasis, Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, ulcerative colitis or pyretic.

36 (new). A method of treating inflammation in a mammal in need thereof which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 23.